U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT ROSEBURG DISTRICT SOUTH RIVER FIELD OFFICE

DECISION RECORD

Based upon the attached Categorical Exclusion Review OR-105-08-25, I have determined that the proposed Top Cat Commercial Thinning project does not involve significant impacts to the human environment and no further environmental analysis is required.

It is my decision to implement the proposed commercial thinning project and authorize commercial thinning on approximately 44 acres of young and overstocked forest stands located in Section 13, T. 29 S., R. 9 W. Commercial thinning in upland areas and density management in Riparian Reserves associated with Unit 2 will yield an estimated 570 thousand board feet of timber.

Commercial thinning will be conducted using harvester/forwarder equipment. Harvest operations and timber hauling will be limited to the dry season, to commence after August 6th, with yarding to be completed prior to the onset of steady autumn rains, typically around in mid-October. Operations will be subject to Daily Operating Restrictions for marbled murrelets from August 6th through September 15th.

No new roads will be constructed. Roads to be used for hauling are under the control of and will be maintained by the BLM.

Ralph L. Thomas Field Manager

South River Field Office

<u>L/16/08</u> Date

As outlined in 43 CFR § 5003 – Administrative Remedies at § 5003.3 (a), protests may be filed within 15 days of the publication date of the timber sale notice. Publication of such notice in *The News-Review*, Roseburg, Oregon, on June 24th, 2008, constitutes the decision date from which such protests may be filed. Protests shall be filed with the authorized officer and contain a written statement of reasons for protesting the decision.

43 CFR § 5003.3 (b) states that: "Protests shall be filed with the authorized officer and shall contain a written statement of reasons for protesting the decision." This precludes the acceptance of electronic mail or facsimile protests. Only written and signed hard copies of protests that are delivered to the Roseburg District Office will be accepted.

As set forth in 43 CFR § 5003.3 (c), protests received more than 15 days after the publication of the timber sale notice are not timely filed and shall not be considered.